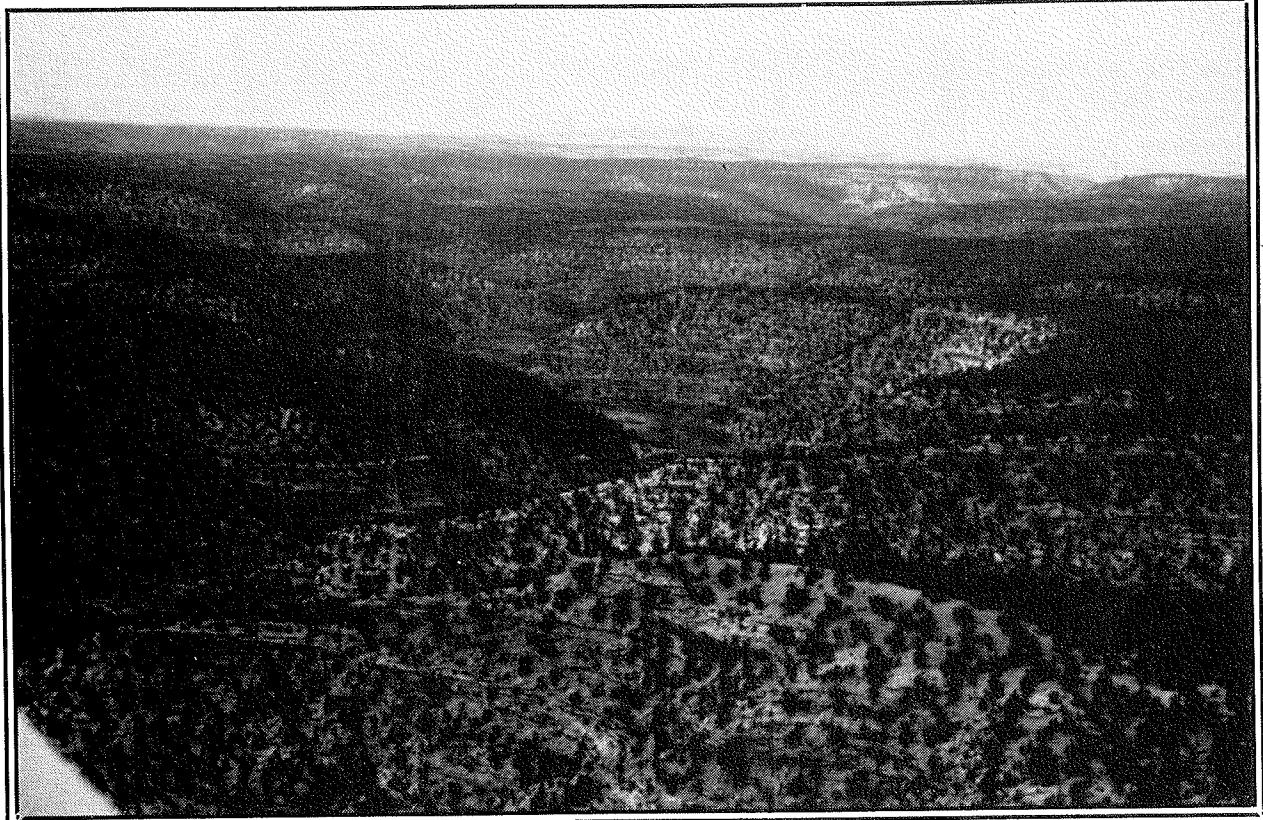
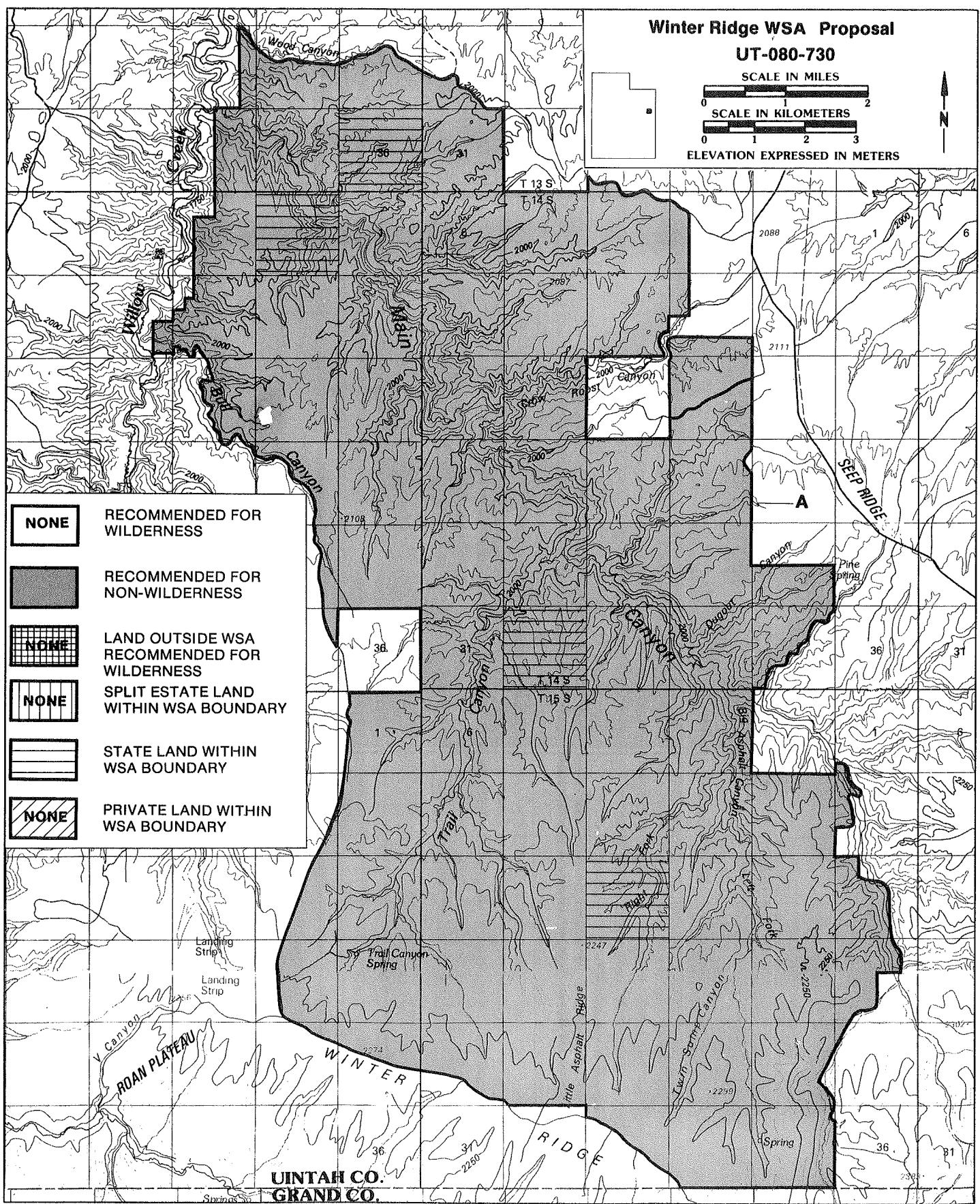


# Winter Ridge WSA



WINTER RIDGE WSA



R. 21 E.

R. 22 E.

October 1991

### WINTER RIDGE WILDERNESS STUDY AREA

#### 1. THE STUDY AREA: 42,462 acres

The Winter Ridge WSA (UT-080-730) is in the Book Cliffs in southern Uintah County, and is about 60 miles south of Vernal, Utah (population 6,600). The study area extends about 12 miles from north to south and 5 miles from east to west. The WSA is bounded on the north-west and east by State and private land. The southern boundary of the WSA is along the Uintah and Grand County line and the crest of Winter Ridge. The southwestern edge of the WSA is along a divide between canyons. Canyons form the northern and central western boundaries. Seep Ridge road, the major access route in the immediate region, is less than a mile east of the WSA.

Four State sections (2,561 acres) are within the WSA (see Map and Table 1). The main feature in the northern part of the WSA is Main Canyon, a relatively shallow canyon that drains towards the northwest. Tributary canyons and the northern slopes of Winter Ridge comprise the southern portion of the unit. Elevations in the WSA range from 5,700 to 7,600 feet. Vegetation is predominantly pinyon-juniper woodland and sagebrush.

The WSA was studied under Section 603 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) and was included in the Utah Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Statewide Wilderness Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) finalized in November 1990.

**TABLE 1  
LAND STATUS AND ACREAGE SUMMARY IN THE STUDY AREA**

	ACRES
<b>WITHIN THE WSA</b>	
BLM (surface and subsurface)	42,462
Split-Estate (BLM surface only)	0
In-holdings (State, Private)	2,561
Total	45,013
<b>WITHIN THE RECOMMENDED WILDERNESS BOUNDARY</b>	
BLM (within the WSA)	0
BLM (outside the WSA)	0
Split-Estate (within the WSA)	0
Split-Estate (outside the WSA)	0
Total BLM land recommended for wilderness	0
In-holdings (State, private)	0
<b>WITHIN THE AREA NOT RECOMMENDED FOR WILDERNESS</b>	
BLM	42,462
Split-Estate	0
Total BLM land not recommended for wilderness	42,462
In-holdings (State, Private)	2,561

Source: BLM File Data

## WINTER RIDGE WILDERNESS STUDY AREA

Three alternatives were analyzed in the EIS: a no wilderness (no action) alternative which is the recommendation in this report, an all wilderness alternative, and a partial wilderness alternative of 28,044 acres.

### 2. RECOMMENDATION AND RATIONALE:

- 0 acres  
(recommended for wilderness)
- 42,462 acres  
(not recommended for wilderness)

The recommendation for this WSA is to release the area for uses other than wilderness. Designation of the entire area is considered to be the environmentally preferable alternative as it would result in the least change from the natural environment over the long term. The alternative selected, however, would be implemented in a manner which would utilize all practical means to avoid or minimize adverse environmental impacts.

Although about 84 percent of the WSA is natural and 75 percent has outstanding opportunities for solitude, none of the area has outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. Oil and gas leases are held by production on about 25 percent of the WSA. Existing facilities within the WSA include 14 gas wells, 19 miles of service roads, and 7.6 miles of pipeline, all constructed in the WSA under pre-existing lease rights. The estimated oil and gas resources take precedence over wilderness values.

### 3. CRITERIA CONSIDERED IN DEVELOPING THE WILDERNESS RECOMMENDATION

#### Wilderness Characteristics

##### A. Naturalness

Naturalness is defined as an attribute in which the evidence of man is substantially unnoticeable to the average visitor and where minor imprints of man exhibit no cumulative impact that is substantially noticeable. Approximately 84 percent (35,835 acres) of the WSA barely meet the wilderness criteria for naturalness. The remaining 6,627 acres lack naturalness. The area varies from deep canyons to rolling terrain and has light

green, dark green, and gray-green vegetation.

Oil and gas activities and livestock grazing caused most of the human imprints in the WSA. Oil and gas activities included well drilling in the northern portion of the WSA and along the southern edge, construction of 16.9 miles of roads and upgrading of 2.1 miles, and clearing of 25 acres for drill pads. Some of the actions required major cuts and fills. In addition, there are a 4-inch buried pipeline along the northern edge of the WSA and another buried pipeline 7.6 miles long in Main Canyon; a total of 9.5 miles of barbed-wire fence with steel and "cedar" posts; 7 acres of study plots; 4 spring developments in the southern part of the WSA; 4 small livestock reservoirs; 2 water wells; 45 acres of pinyon-juniper removal (chaining); and a total of 13 miles of ways.

Many of these imprints are not readily noticeable, but gas wells and associated features in Main Canyon, including the 13.6 miles road, major cuts and fills for three drill pads, and a producing well with a 2-mile access road in the southwest corner of the WSA are obvious to visitors seeking wilderness values and distinctly contrast with naturalness.

##### B. Solitude

About 10,565 acres (25 percent of the WSA) do not have outstanding opportunities for solitude. In the remaining 31,897 acres, opportunities for solitude are generally good.

Traffic noises and the sounds of drilling are audible for an average of a 0.5 mile from their origins, and affect much of Main Canyon, in the central part of the WSA. Vegetation and terrain generally do not provide screening.

On the flat ridge tops, where dense stands of pinyon-juniper grow, and around the heads of the shallow side canyons, vegetation and terrain provide screening from sights and sounds.

## WINTER RIDGE WILDERNESS STUDY AREA

### C. Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Opportunities for primitive recreation are not outstanding in the WSA because of general lack of a focal point of interest or a diversity of vegetation and other features.

### D. Special Features

The WSA has year-round populations of cougar, elk, and black bear which are species associated with wilderness. The peregrine falcon and bald eagle, listed as endangered, and six other animal species considered sensitive may occur in the WSA. Three plant species considered as sensitive also may occur in the WSA. Refer to Appendix 4 and the Affected Environment, Vegetation and Wildlife Including Special Status Species sections of the Utah BLM Statewide Wilderness Final EIS for additional information.

### Diversity in the National Wilderness Preservation System (NWPS)

#### A. Expanding the Diversity of Natural Systems and Features as Represented by Ecosystems

Wilderness designation of this WSA would not add a PNV ecosystem not presently represented nationally in the NWPS, but it would add a potential ecosystem not currently represented in the NWPS in Utah.

It would also add the largest acreage (42,462 acres) of that PNV. PNV is the vegetative type that would eventually become climax vegetation if not altered by human interference, and is not necessarily the vegetation that is currently present in an area.

The WSA is in the Rocky Mountain Forest Province/Ecoregion. The PNV in the WSA is entirely juniper-pinyon woodland (42,462 acres). The PNV in the WSA is represented in the NWPS nationally and in other BLM study areas both in and outside of Utah, but is not represented in the NWPS in Utah. This information is summarized in Table 2 from data compiled in December 1989.

### B. Assessing the Opportunities for Solitude or Primitive Recreation within a Days Driving Time (5 Hours) of Major Population Centers

The WSA is within a 5-hour drive of Salt Lake City-Ogden, Utah and Provo-Orem, Utah. Table 3 summarizes the number and acreage of designated wilderness and other BLM study areas within a 5-hour drive of these population centers.

### C. Balancing the Geographic Distribution of Wilderness Areas

The Winter Ridge WSA would not contribute significantly to balancing the geographic distribution of wilderness areas within the NWPS.

**TABLE 2**  
**ECOSYSTEM REPRESENTATION**

<b>BAILEY-KUCHLER CLASSIFICATION (PNV)</b>	<b>NWPS AREAS</b>		<b>OTHER BLM STUDIES</b>	
	<b>AREAS</b>	<b>ACRES</b>	<b>AREAS</b>	<b>ACRES</b>
<b>NATIONWIDE (ROCKY MOUNTAIN FOREST PROVINCE)</b>				
Juniper-Pinyon Woodland	2	41,451	19	125,174
<b>UTAH (ROCKY MOUNTAIN FOREST PROVINCE)</b>				
Juniper-Pinyon Woodland	0	0	3	4,606

Source: BLM File Data.

WINTER RIDGE WILDERNESS STUDY AREA

TABLE 3  
WILDERNESS OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESIDENTS OF MAJOR POPULATION CENTERS

POPULATION CENTERS	NWPS AREAS		OTHER BLM STUDIES	
	AREAS	ACRES	AREAS	ACRES
Salt Lake City-Ogden, Utah	11	1,099,962	78	2,217,213
Provo-Orem, Utah	11	721,793	90	2,744,406

Source: BLM File Data.

As of January, 1987, the NWPS included 59 areas comprising 6,528,263 acres in Utah and in Colorado and Wyoming, the adjacent states nearest the WSA.

A Winter Ridge Wilderness would supplement wilderness areas in the Uintah Basin in northeastern Utah. There is only one designated wilderness within 100 miles of the WSA. Northwest of the WSA is the 456,705-acre High Uintahs Wilderness (U.S. Forest Service [FS]).

Manageability (The area must be capable of being effectively managed to preserve its wilderness character.)

In the foreseeable future, the WSA could not be managed to preserve wilderness values. Ongoing oil and gas production activities would continue to detract from wilderness values in the WSA. Overall, in the long term, the WSA could be managed as wilderness. There are about 9,241 acres (22 percent) of the WSA in leases issued prior to the FLPMA that are held by production. These leases could be fully explored and developed as valid rights, regardless of the impact on wilderness values. However, BLM projects that only 34 acres of the WSA would be directly disturbed and that wilderness values would be indirectly reduced on about 1,300 acres of the WSA. Wilderness designation would prevent leasing of tar sand deposits in the WSA, therefore, tar sand developments and their potential impact on wilderness values would be prevented.

Development of mining claims is not a threat to wilderness management in this WSA because there are no mining claims inside the WSA and it is withdrawn from mining claim location.

There are four State sections in-held in the WSA. BLM projects that oil and gas exploration and limited development will occur on these lands in the foreseeable future and that only about 12 acres of the WSA would be disturbed by provision of reasonable access to these lands. In the long term, tar sand extraction activities on the adjacent State section (T. 14 S., R. 22 E., Sec. 16) could reduce the quality of wilderness values in the northeast portion of the WSA. Tar sand extraction is not expected on the in-held State lands.

Continued operation in rights-of-way for two small diameter pipelines in the WSA would not significantly affect overall management of the WSA for protection of wilderness values.

#### Energy and Mineral Resource Values

Because the WSA is not recommended for wilderness designation, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and the U.S. Bureau of Mines (USBM) did not prepare a mineral assessment report for the area. According to BLM geologists, the Winter Ridge WSA is in an area that has established oil and gas, tar sand, and oil shale potential. The WSA is considered favorable for locating a shallow gas field with ultimately recoverable total reserves of up to 60 billion cubic feet. Daily production of natural gas from within the WSA currently totals about 7.5 million cubic feet from 10 wells.

Estimated reserves in the WSA are 48 million barrels of shale oil. About 35,500 acres of the P.R. Springs Special Tar Sand Area are in the WSA. Almost all of the eastern two-thirds of the WSA is underlain by a 10- to 15-foot thick, continuous tar sand sequence that could

## WINTER RIDGE WILDERNESS STUDY AREA

yield about 15,000 barrels of oil per acre. The remaining portion of the WSA contains tar sand of lower quality. About 500 million barrels of oil are predicted to occur in tar sands in the WSA. The WSA consequently is considered to have a relatively high importance for possible fluid hydrocarbon resources.

Coal may occur at relatively great depth in the WSA, but coal seams are thin and the coal is probably of low quality.

The occurrence of other minerals is speculative. Because the WSA is in an oil shale withdrawal, mining claims are prohibited. The WSA has no demonstrated potential for locatable minerals. The geologic conditions indicate that uranium or vanadium and copper may exist at considerable depth.

### Impacts on Resources

The comparative impact table (Table 4) summarizes the effects on pertinent resources for alternatives considered including designation or nondesignation of the area as wilderness.

### Local Social and Economic Considerations

Present economic conditions would not be affected. Employment for oil and gas exploration and production would continue. Employment of 300 people in the production of oil from tar sand would represent about 2.1 percent of the projected Uintah County employment in the year 2010. There would be minor beneficial and adverse economic impacts. By the year 2020, the WSA would contribute up to \$15,580 annually in local sales related to recreation. Considering proposed vegetation treatments and possible tar sand development, livestock sales would add \$3,545 in Federal grazing revenues each year. Tar sand royalties from the WSA would contribute about \$1.8 million per year to the Federal treasury for about 100 years while gas royalties of \$50,000 per year would continue and could increase from \$20,000 to as much as \$100,000 per year per well depending on the demand for natural gas.

### Summary of WSA-Specific Comments

Public involvement has occurred throughout the wilderness review process. Com-

ments received during the early stages of the EIS preparation were used to develop significant study issues and alternatives for the ultimate management of the WSA.

During formal public review of the Draft EIS, a total of 22 inputs specifically addressing this WSA were received from 22 commenters, including oral statements received at 17 public hearings on the EIS. Each letter or oral testimony was considered to be one input. Duplicate letters or oral statements by the same commenter were not counted as additional inputs or signatures. Each individual was credited with one signature or testimony regardless of the number of inputs.

In general, six commenters supported wilderness designation for part or all of the WSA, while 10 commenters were opposed. Six commenters addressed the relative merits of the EIS but took no formal position on wilderness designation.

Those favoring wilderness commented on the general wilderness values in the WSA. The majority of those commenting in favor of wilderness were from outside of Utah. Of particular concern was the need to protect wilderness and other values in the WSA.

Those opposing wilderness were concerned that wilderness would preclude mineral exploration and development. Most of the commenters were from rural Utah.

No Federal agency commented on the Draft EIS for this WSA or expressed any opinion regarding wilderness designation.

No comment letters were received on the Final EIS.

There are four State sections (2,561 acres) in the WSA. In commenting on the Draft EIS, the State of Utah expressed general opposition to wilderness designation of the WSA. The State commented that the Winter Ridge WSA has the lowest wilderness values and the highest degree of conflicts of all the WSAs in the East-Central region of the State. The State perceives the major conflicts to be with mineral and energy resources and other land uses.

#### **WINTER RIDGE WILDERNESS STUDY AREA**

The Winter Ridge WSA is in Uintah County. The Uintah County Master Plan does not specifically address the Winter Ridge WSA, but the County planning staff has stated that designation of the WSA as wilderness would conflict with present land use, which encourages development of the oil and gas reserves. In commenting on the Draft EIS, the Uintah County Commission opposed designation of the area because in their opinion, it has already been impacted by oil and gas development, it lacks wilderness values, and the area is more valuable for oil and gas production than wilderness. The Uintah County Commission has endorsed the Consolidated Local Government Response to Wilderness that opposes wilderness designation of BLM lands in Utah.

## WINTER RIDGE WSA

**Table 4**  
**Comparative Summary of Impacts by Alternative**

Issue Topic	Recommendation No Action/No Wilderness	Alternatives		Impacts would be about the same as with the No Action/No Wilderness Alternative because tar sand mining would not occur.
		All Wilderness (42,462 Acres)	Partial Wilderness (28,044 Acres)	
Impacts on Wilderness Values	<p>Wilderness values would not be protected by wilderness designation and loss would occur as intrusions increase. In the short term, naturalness and opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation would be directly lost on 879 acres and indirectly reduced in quality on up to about 1,300 acres due to valid existing rights. Special features would be preserved. The extent of loss that would occur over the long term would be much less with this alternative than with the No Action/No Wilderness Alternative because tar sand development would not occur and the area would be closed to ORV use.</p> <p>Wilderness designation would protect the wilderness values of the WSA. In the short term, opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation would be directly lost on 34 acres of the WSA and indirectly reduced in quality on up to about 1,300 acres due to valid existing rights. Special features would be preserved. The extent of loss that would occur over the long term would be much less with this alternative than with the No Action/No Wilderness Alternative because tar sand development would not occur and the area would be closed to ORV use.</p>	<p>Wilderness values would be protected in the designated area, which is approximately 66 percent of the WSA. In the short term, naturalness and opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation would be directly lost on 75 acres of the WSA and would be indirectly reduced in quality on up to 3,800 acres. The disturbance would be due to oil and gas exploration and development, rangeland development, vegetation treatment, and providing access to State in-holdings. Most of the impact would be in the nondesignated area. Vehicular use of existing ways and future roads in the nondesignated portion would detract from the quality of opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. Long-term tar sand development in the nondesignated area would result in a direct loss of wilderness values on about 1,000 acres and an indirect reduction in the quality of the wilderness values throughout the WSA. This indirect impact would be to half the degree that would occur with the No Action/No Wilderness Alternative. Wildlife would be displaced but impacts on wildlife would be less than with the No Action/No Wilderness Alternative because the best wildlife habitat would be in the designated area.</p>	<p>Air quality would not be affected by activities within the WSA because tar sand mining would not occur.</p>	<p>Air quality would not be significantly reduced by activities in the WSA. In the long term, tar sand mining would result in temporary violations of PSD Class II TSP standards.</p>
Impacts on Air Quality	Air			Impacts would be about the same as with the No Action/No Wilderness Alternative because tar sand mining would not occur.

## WINTER RIDGE WSA

**Table 4 (Continued)**  
**Comparative Summary of Impacts by Alternative**

Issue Topic	Recommendation No Action/No Wilderness	Alternatives		Partial Wilderness (28.04 Acres)
		All Wilderness (42.462 Acres)	Geologic and topographic features would not be significantly affected because the potential for surface mining would be eliminated.	
Impacts on Geology and Topography	In the long term, geologic and topographic features would be altered significantly on 1,965 acres as a result of tar sand mining.	Overall, there would be a 6 percent increase in sediment yield from the WSA. This would be significant on a localized basis. Discharge of sediment and salts into the Green River drainage would not be significantly increased because mitigation would be required, there are no perennial streams in the WSA and the disturbance would mainly be on an upland plateau.	Impacts on soils and increased erosion would be insignificant because sediment yield from the WSA would increase by only 0.1 percent.	In the long term, geologic and topographic features would be significantly altered on 2.4 percent (1,000 acres) of the WSA as a result of tar sand development in the nondesignated area.
Impacts on Soils				Overall there would be a 2 percent increase in sediment yield from the WSA. Impacts would be about the same as with the No Action/No Wilderness Alternative because tar sand would be mined in the nondesignated area.
Impacts on Vegetation			Over the long term, up to 6.7 percent (2,844 acres) of the vegetation types in the WSA would be altered or destroyed. Populations of special status species would be protected even though inadvertent loss of some individual plants would occur.	Vegetation types and special status species would be protected because potential disturbance would be reduced from 2,844 acres to 34 acres.
Impacts on Water Resources			In the short term, ground and surface water quality and quantity would not be affected. Over the long term, tar sand development would reduce quantities of groundwater by about 700 acre-feet per year. It would not significantly affect the Green and Colorado Rivers' salinity or water flows because precipitation is low, all drainages in the WSA are ephemeral and mitigation would be required.	Ground and surface water quality and quantity in the WSA would be protected.
				Water quality, quantity, and uses would not be affected in the short term. Over the long term, tar sand development would reduce the quantity of groundwater in the nondesignated area by 700 acre-feet per year but for a shorter period of time than with the No Action/No Wilderness Alternative. Salinity or flows in the Green and Colorado Rivers would not be significantly affected.

## WINTER RIDGE WSA

**Table 4 (Continued)**  
**Comparative Summary of Impacts by Alternative**

Issue Topic	Recommendation No Action/No Wilderness	Alternatives	
		All Wilderness (42.462 Acres)	Partial Wilderness (28.044 Acres)
Impacts on Mineral and Energy Exploration and Production	Implementation of this alternative would not significantly affect mineral exploration or production because mineral leasing, exploration, and development could occur without restrictions for protection of wilderness values.	Long-term potential for production of up to 375 million barrels of oil from tar sand and an unknown but locally significant amount of natural gas and oil would be foregone.	Recovery of up to 248 million barrels of oil from tar sand and an unknown portion of the oil and gas in the WSA would be foregone. However, in the nondesignated area up to 127 million barrels of oil from tar sand and a portion of the oil and gas could be recovered.
Impacts on Wildlife Habitat and Populations	In the short term, some wildlife species may be displaced or otherwise affected by oil and gas activities on 160 acres and continued use of vehicular or roads or ways big game would benefit from rangeland developments. Reductions in populations can be expected if long-term development of tar sand occurs on 1,965 acres (affecting up to 500 acres at any one time) due to large restructuring of habitat components. Some benefits would also result from increased forage resulting from reclamation.	Overall, wildlife species and their habitat would benefit from wilderness designation because it would prevent large scale development of tar sand. Eight proposed springs could be developed which would expand species diversity, distribution, and possible population levels. Opportunities for improving wildlife habitat by vegetation manipulation or construction of reservoirs would be foregone. Special status species would be protected.	Impacts on wildlife species and their habitat would be similar to those with the All Wilderness Alternative because the best wildlife habitat in the WSA would be in the designated area. Overall, wildlife species and their habitat would benefit from partial wilderness designation because the potential for surface disturbance and human intrusion would be reduced on 66 percent of the WSA. Eight proposed spring developments could be completed which would expand species diversity, distribution and possible population levels. Opportunities for improving wildlife habitat would be foregone because of prevention of reservoir construction and treatment of vegetation. Populations of special status species would be protected.

## WINTER RIDGE WSA

**Table 4 (Continued)**  
**Comparative Summary of Impacts by Alternative**

Issue Topic	Recommendation No Action/No Wilderness	Alternatives	
		All Wilderness (42,462 Acres)	Partial Wilderness (28,044 Acres)
Impacts on Livestock Management	In the short term, livestock management would not be adversely affected and would benefit from rangeland developments. In the long term, available forage would be reduced by about 18 AUMs for the duration of tar sand activities.	Restrictions on vehicle use on 13 miles of ways would be an inconvenience for six permittees. Livestock management techniques would be altered and operating costs could increase. Opportunities to improve livestock distribution and increase forage by 105 AUMs would be foregone because construction of proposed reservoirs and vegetation treatments would not be possible.	Restrictions on vehicle use on 10 of the 13 miles of ways would be an inconvenience for six permittees. Livestock management techniques would increase. Opportunities to improve livestock distribution and increase forage by 105 AUMs would be foregone because construction of proposed reservoirs and vegetation treatments would not be possible.
Impacts on Cultural Resources	Inadvertent loss or damage to archaeological sites including 26 recorded sites, may occur due to surface developments and ORV use. Intentional vandalism and artifact collection may increase due to increased activity and accessibility. Cultural resource management would continue without regard to wilderness management considerations.	Cultural resources would receive additional protection from the effects of surface disturbance and vandalism because potential disturbance would be reduced from 2,844 acres to 34 acres and the area would be closed to ORV activity. Cultural resources could be inadvertently damaged by the 34 acres of projected surface disturbance but impacts would be minor because only 0.08 percent of the WSA would be disturbed. Cultural resource management may be limited in scope and execution in order to protect other wilderness values.	Approximately 13 of the 26 recorded sites would receive protection as a result of wilderness designation. All sites in the nondesignated portion of the WSA would continue to be protected by existing laws. Inadvertent loss or damage to archaeological sites may occur due to 1,075 acres of surface disturbance in the WSA and/or continued use of vehicles in the nondesignated area. Cultural resource management may be limited in scope and execution on 66 percent of the WSA in order to protect other wilderness values.
Impacts on Recreation	This alternative would not significantly affect recreational use in the WSA. Motorized recreational use would increase over present levels by 2 to 7 percent per year for the foreseeable future. In the long term, levels of use would be reduced because of the intrusion of tar sand development.	Overall, recreational use of the area would initially decline following wilderness designation and would not reach the levels projected for the No Action/No Wilderness Alternative (up to 3,800 visitor days by the year 2020) because primitive recreation would probably not replace vehicle-based recreation in this area. Hunting would be the primary recreation use affected.	Overall, recreational use of the area would initially decline following wilderness designation and would not reach the levels projected for the No Action/No Wilderness Alternative (up to 3,800 visitor days by the year 2020) because primitive recreation would probably not replace vehicle-based recreation in this area. Hunting would be the primary recreation use affected.

## WINTER RIDGE WSA

**Table 4 (Continued)**  
**Comparative Summary of Impacts by Alternative**

Issue Topic	Recommendation No Action/No Wilderness	Alternatives		Present economic conditions would not be affected. Employment for oil and gas exploration and production would continue but for a shorter period of time than with the No Action/No Wilderness Alternative. Oil production from tar sand in the nondesignated portion of the WSA would employ about 300 people (about 2.1 percent of the projected Uintah County employment in the year 2020), but the duration of mining, employment, and related beneficial and adverse economic impacts would be reduced because only 34 percent of the tar sand in the WSA could be mined. Annual local recreation-related sales would be less than with the No Action/No Wilderness Alternative (less than \$15,580). Livestock grazing would continue to contribute \$44,300 in local sales and \$3,411 in Federal revenues annually but potential livestock-related sales and revenues would be reduced by \$1,740 and \$134 respectively as compared to the No Action/No Wilderness Alternative because potential oil, gas, and tar sand leasing fees of up to \$66,442 would be foregone as would tar sand royalty payments of about \$1.8 million annually for about 100 years and oil and gas royalties of between \$20,000 and \$100,000 per well per year on future wells on 79 percent of the WSA.	
		All Wilderness (42,462 Acres)	Partial Wilderness (28,044 Acres)		
Impacts on Economic Conditions	Present economic conditions would not be affected. Employment in oil and gas exploration and production in the WSA would continue. Employment of 300 people in production of oil from tar sand would represent about 2.1 percent of the projected Uintah County employment in the year 2010. There would be minor beneficial and adverse economic impacts. By the year 2020, the WSA would contribute up to \$15,580 annually in local sales related to recreation. Considering proposed vegetation treatments and possible tar sand development, livestock sales and \$3,545 in Federal grazing revenues each year. Tar sand royalties from the WSA would contribute about \$1.8 million per year to the Federal treasury for about 100 years while gas royalties of \$50,000 per year would continue and could increase from \$20,000 to as much as \$100,000 per year per well depending on demand for natural gas.	Present economic conditions would not be affected. The potential for 300 jobs, 2.1 percent of the projected Uintah County employment in the year 2010, would be foregone. Annual local recreation-related sales would be less than with the No Action/No Wilderness Alternative (less than \$15,580 by the year 2020) because primitive recreational use would probably not replace motorized use. Livestock grazing would continue to contribute \$44,300 in local sales and \$3,411 in Federal revenues annually but potential livestock-related sales and revenues would be reduced by \$1,740 and \$134 respectively as compared to the No Action/No Wilderness Alternative because potential oil, gas, and tar sand leasing fees of up to \$66,442 would be foregone as would tar sand royalty payments of about \$1.8 million annually for about 100 years and oil and gas royalties of between \$20,000 and \$100,000 per well per year on future wells on 79 percent of the WSA.	Present economic conditions would not be affected. Employment for oil and gas exploration and production would continue but for a shorter period of time than with the No Action/No Wilderness Alternative. Oil production from tar sand in the nondesignated portion of the WSA would employ about 300 people (about 2.1 percent of the projected Uintah County employment in the year 2020), but the duration of mining, employment, and related beneficial and adverse economic impacts would be reduced because only 34 percent of the tar sand in the WSA could be mined. Annual local recreation-related sales would be less than with the No Action/No Wilderness Alternative (less than \$15,580). Livestock grazing would continue to contribute \$44,300 in local sales and \$3,411 in Federal revenues annually but potential annual livestock related sales and revenues would be reduced by \$1,740 and \$134, respectively, as compared to the No Action/No Wilderness Alternative because proposed vegetation treatments would not be allowed. Annual Federal and State oil and gas and tar sand leasing fees of up to \$41,726 would be foregone as would potential royalties on oil, gas, and tar sand production from 49 percent of the WSA.		